REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the feature of the present invention whereby a <u>single</u> arm is provided for connecting a <u>single</u> one of the set of left and right straight frames and a substantially central portion of the blade to be swingable up and down and to a left direction and a right direction, as supported by the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 8, lines 3-15.

In addition, claims 1-4 have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put the claims in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent.

Still further, new claim 5 has been added depending from claim 1 to recite the feature of the present invention which was formerly recited in claim 1 whereby a hydraulic cylinder for tilt drive and a support member swingably connect the set of left and right straight frames to the blade.

New claim 6 has been added depending from claim 1 to recite the feature of the present invention which was formerly recited

in claim 1 whereby a set of left and right hydraulic cylinders for tilt drive swingably connect the set of left and right straight frames to the blade.

New independent claim 7 has been added to recite the features of the present invention whereby a blade mounting structure of a bulldozer comprises a set of left and right straight frames which swingably connect a left portion and a right portion of a blade and a vehicle main body, and wherein a single one of the set of left and right straight frames is connected to a substantially central portion of the blade by a connecting member which consists essentially of a single arm for connecting a single one of the set of left and right straight frames and a substantially central portion of the blade to be swingable up and down and to a left direction and a right direction, as supported by the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 8, lines 3-15.

And new claims 8-12 have been added depending from claim 7 and corresponding respectively to claims 2-6.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 1-4 and the addition of new claims 5-12 be approved and entered.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that neither the Admitted Prior Art shown in Figs. 8 and 9 nor any of the cited

references disclose, teach or suggest the feature of the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1 whereby a single arm is provided for connecting a single one of the set of left and right straight frames and a substantially central portion of the blade, or the feature of the present invention as recited in new independent claim 7 whereby a single one of the set of left and right straight frames is connected to a substantially central portion of the blade by a connecting member which consists essentially of a single arm.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1, new independent claim 7, and claims 2-6 and 8-12 respective depending therefrom, all patentably distinguish over the Admitted Prior Art and all of the cited references, taken singly or in any combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

Application No. 10/719,325 Response to Office Action

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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